

In attendance

CAG Members

Bruce Beaulaurier
Jim Creevey
Ernie Grillo
Barbara Justice
Bente Pasko
Don Potter
Peggy Reddy
Mike Rundle
Jeremy Zucker
Jay Willenberg

King County Staff

Gina Auld, Capital Project Manager
Monica Clark, Capital Program Manager
Robert Foxworthy, Program Manager/Regional
Trails Coordinator
Robert Nunnenkamp, Property Agent

Consultant Team

Jenny Bailey, Parametrix
Rita Brogan, PRR
Teresa Gonzales, PRR

Members of the public

Jane Byrd, Friends of the Sammamish Trail
Reid Brockway, area resident

Meeting agenda

I. Welcome

CAG members, project staff and visitors were welcomed by facilitator Rita Brogan and the purpose of the meeting was stated. She introduced East Lake Sammamish Trail Project Manager, Gina Auld and asked CAG members, observers in the audience and staff from King County to introduce themselves.

II. ESLT Update and CAG Charter

Since the last CAG meeting, King County has opened the Interim Use Trail and the Master Plan Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be published on October 20. A Public Hearing is scheduled for November 9 at Bellevue Community College from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Members of the CAG are encouraged to attend this hearing.

A proposed CAG Charter was reviewed. CAG members are asked to participate in 2-3 meetings between now and the end of the year to review the Master Plan DEIS and discuss impacts, proposed mitigation and implementation of a preferred option. Notes from the meeting will be forwarded to each CAG member, and they are asked to return comments as quickly as possible.

A DEIS Decision Making Process document was reviewed along with important dates and milestones. The CAG has been asked to complete their report by January 23. The FEIS will probably be released late summer of 2007.

III. Presentation of DEIS Document

Consultant Jennifer Bailey presented the DEIS document. Vol. I is the main body of the EIS; Vol. II is the plan sheets of the document and Vol. III is the technical appendices. CAG members will receive a hard copy of Vol. 1 and disks with the remaining documents on CD-Rom. Important sections of Volume 1 include:

- "Front Matter" Where to find various types of information
- The Executive Summary
- Chapter 1: Purpose, need, background and history of the project (original urban trail planning, rail-banking, acquisition, etc.)
- Chapter 2: Description of alternatives (5 alternatives)
- Chapter 3: Evaluation of impacts and proposed mitigation by environmental element

Please see the DEIS for a complete description of the five alternatives.

Chapter 2 includes the typical cross-sections, descriptions of the different intersections, types of signage, and a section called "Features Common to All Trail Alternatives." Common features include parking, restrooms, traffic control, retaining walls, fencing, vegetation management, 1% for art, etc. In the back of Chapter 2 there is information about construction timing and methods.

IV. Discussion

The balance of the meeting was to discuss the environmental process and the project alternatives. The attached table summarizes the topics or questions raised by the CAG members at the meeting and King County's follow up responses to those topics or questions.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY

Topic or Question	King County Follow up
Can the CAG truly influence the decision-making process or has a decision already been made?	King County has named a preliminary preferred alternative but no decision has been made on a specific project. The input and analysis assembled during the development of the FEIS process will assist in making the final decisions on the Master Plan. Once the Master Plan is adopted, there will be continued outreach on different aspects of Master Plan Implementation.
Safety concerns about increased volumes and speeds on a paved trail (v. a gravel trail).	This topic will be an agenda item at the November 16 CAG meeting.
Has County obtained trail use data for the Interim Use Trail?	No. While surveys will likely occur in 2007, the data will not be ready in time to support the development of CAG recommendations for the DEIS.
How will the County deal with the rail-banked right of	The Draft EIS does not propose doing anything

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way that is not used for the trail?	with this land. Any future proposals would be subject to separate environmental review.
Has \$1M been budgeted by the County for the Master Plan Trail design?	The Executives proposed budget includes \$1M to complete the environmental review process and begin Master Plan Trail design.
Can King County change the alternatives?	The range of alternatives evaluated in the Draft EIS are based on substantial input from the public, as well as federal, state, and local agencies. It is important to keep in mind that the purpose of analyzing the impacts of all the alternatives in the DEIS is to make the best, most informed decisions about the Master Plan. During the FEIS, changes can be made as part of the decision making process. However, the manner in which those changes are addressed under SEPA and NEPA laws (i.e., the additional documentation and review needed) depends on the extent and nature of those changes.
How are impacts of horses and the problems with manure being addressed in the DEIS?	The DEIS has analyzed the broadest number of uses on the trail, in order to properly assess their impacts for the purpose of making decisions for the ultimate Master Plan. Potential manure impacts are addressed in the DEIS.
What types of surface paving will be used?	This topic will be an agenda item at the November 16 CAG meeting.
What is the County doing to address use conflicts at crossings?	King County complies with specific safety guidelines applied to crossings. This topic will be discussed further at the November 16 CAG meeting.
Is fencing addressed in the DEIS and what is the long-term County plan for fencing?	Fencing is addressed in the DEIS and will be discussed in further detail at the November 16 CAG meeting.
Do the DEIS alternatives comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act?	Yes.
Are there are any trails in the King County trail system that go off the property and onto city streets?	Only where there are crossings.

V Next Steps

CAG members were asked to consider the following proposed dates for the next two CAG meetings, Thursday, November 16 and Thursday, December 14. Everyone was encouraged to follow-up with Teresa Gonzales by phone or email. Meeting summaries and details about the next two meetings will be sent to the CAG shortly. The meeting was then adjourned.